

Report on Fall 2002 Enrollment

Fall 2002 enrollments at all levels continue the substantial increases that began with reform in 1998.

Highlights include:

- A record high 221,182 students enrolled at public and independent postsecondary institutions in Kentucky. Public institutions alone enrolled 191,284 students.
- These record enrollments are due to increased retention rates at five universities and the KCTCS, recruitment of larger freshman classes, and the enrollment of high school students. Western Kentucky University, University of Kentucky, Northern Kentucky University, Murray State University, and Eastern Kentucky University reported the largest first-time freshman classes to date. Additionally, over 11,000 high school students across the state enrolled in Kentucky's postsecondary education institutions in Fall 2002.
- Among the undergraduate students enrolled: 87 percent were Kentucky residents, 57 percent were female, 31 percent were 25 years of age or older, 8 percent were African American, and 35 percent enrolled part-time.

Enrollment Growth Since 1998:

- Since 1998, total postsecondary education enrollment increased by 36,336 students or 19.7 percent.
- Undergraduate enrollment increased 32,712, moving the council closer to the goal of enrolling 80,000 new students by 2015.
- The KCTCS showed the largest increase with 22,283 more students. This is an increase of 48.9 percent since 1998.
- Among undergraduates, the percent of in-state students has remained relatively stable at 87 percent, female enrollment has decreased by 1.6 percent, enrollment of students 25 years or older has increased by 1.5 percent, African American student enrollment has increased by 0.3 percent, and part-time enrollment has increased by 5.6 percent since 1998.

- Graduate student enrollment growth, on a percentage basis, was significant in both the state-supported and independent institutions. Public institutions increased 14.5 percent, or 2,524 graduate students across institutions in a variety of academic programs. Independent institutions increased 45.2 percent, or 875 graduate students, with notable growth at Campbellsville University, Lindsey Wilson College, Sullivan University, and Spalding University.

While national data is not yet available for comparison, several states project annual enrollment increases in the range of 3 to 4 percent. Kentucky's enrollment increased 5.2 percent since last year. In September, the American Association of Community Colleges reported an expected enrollment spike in two-year institutions based on preliminary figures provided by community colleges across the nation. Enrollment at the KCTCS increased 7.4 percent in the last year.

The attached table provides enrollment information, including change statistics, for each public institution. More detailed enrollment information - including independent institution enrollments and summaries by demographic characteristics - will be available on the council's Facts and Figures Web page.

[View the Enrollment Tables](#)

[View the Enrollment PowerPoint Presentation](#)

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